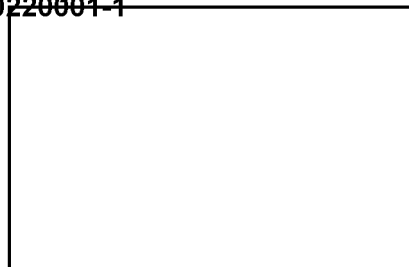




Director of
Central
Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

Tuesday
27 February 1979

State Dept. review completed

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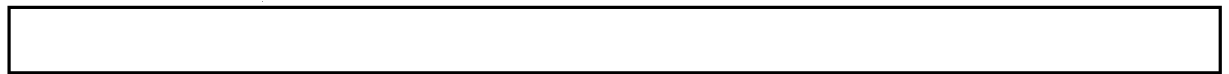


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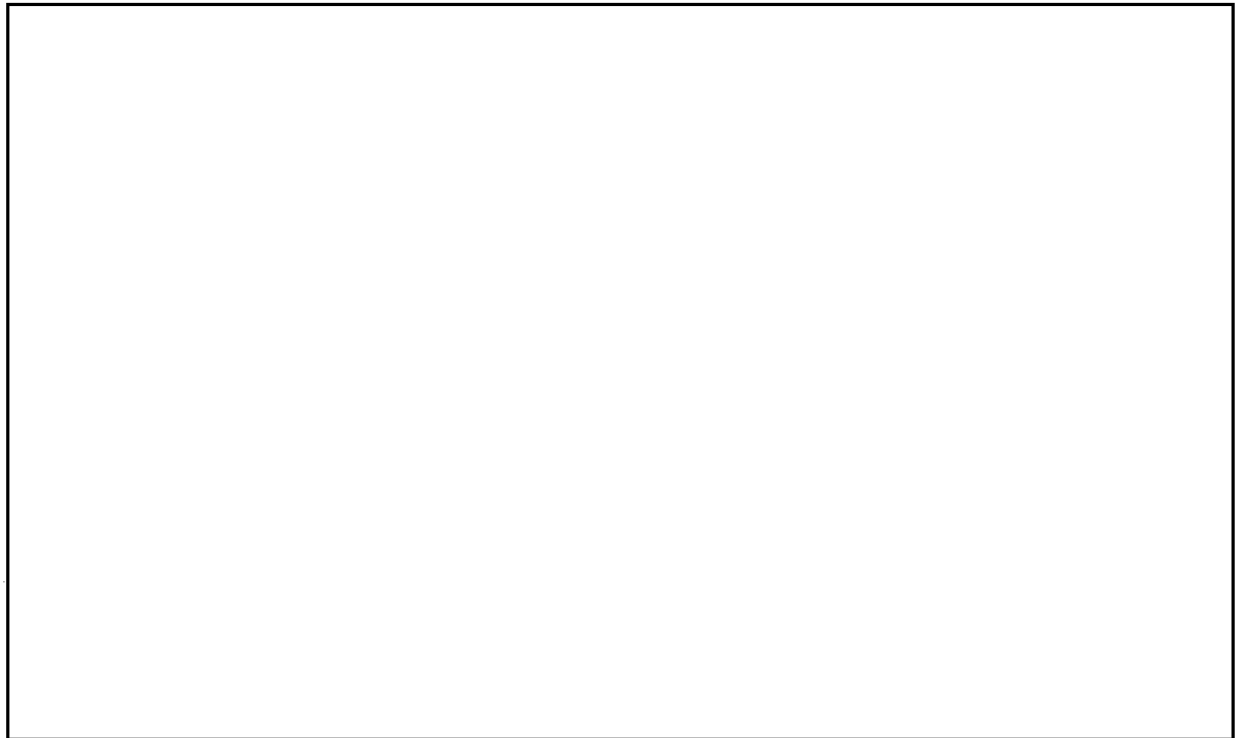
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Overnight Reports 20

The Overnight Reports, printed on yellow paper as the final section of the Daily, will often contain materials that update the Situation Reports and Briefs and Comments.



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[REDACTED]

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IRAN

Prime Minister Bazargan is deeply concerned about the loyalty of the Mujahadin guerrillas--the government's principal armed backers [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] *The continued loyalty of the Mujahadin to the regime is crucial to its survival.* [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the Mujahadin are becoming increasingly irritated with Bazargan's government, which the guerrillas consider too conservative. The Mujahadin have long been Islamic radicals and they show considerable sympathy for the Marxist Chariks' demands for revolutionary changes. A Mujahadin spokesman echoed many of the leftist group's demands on Sunday. [REDACTED]

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The statement may also have been intended as a conciliatory gesture to the Chariks. There have been numerous gunfights between the two groups in the last two weeks. [REDACTED]

The task of maintaining the Mujahadin's support has reportedly been entrusted to Deputy Prime Minister for Revolutionary Affairs Yazdi, who is rapidly emerging as the most influential member of the Bazargan cabinet. He has responsibility not only for the Mujahadin, but also for the Revolutionary National Guard forces the government is trying to establish--a potentially significant power base. [REDACTED]

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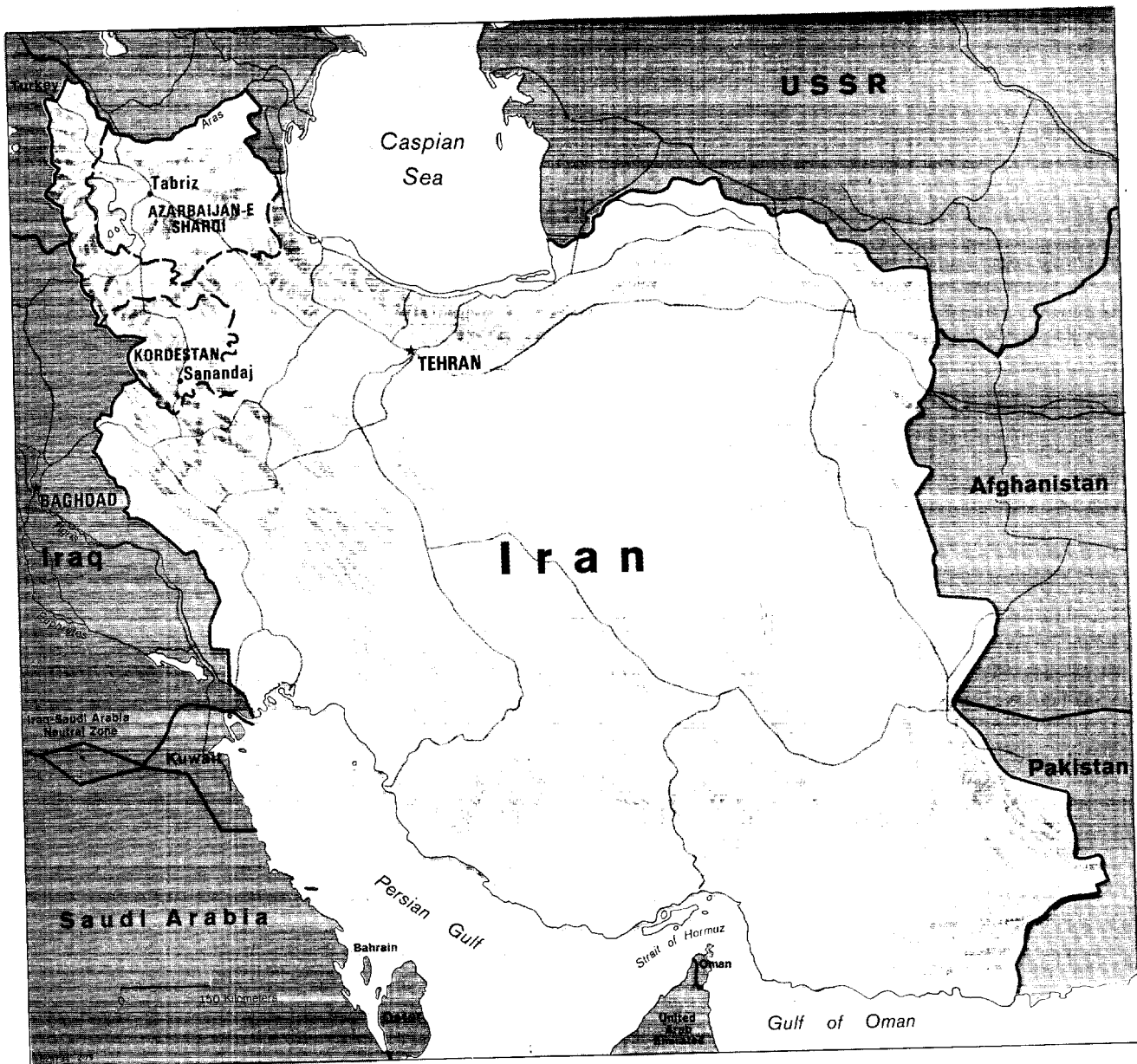
Yazdi has also acted as a prominent spokesman for the regime on foreign affairs; he acted as host for Palestine Liberation Organization chief Arafat during the PLO chief's recent visit to Iran. Last weekend, Yazdi publicly expressed the belief that Iran's Islamic revolution should serve as an example to other Muslim states, especially Egypt, although he said that Iran will not actively export its revolution to other countries. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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Kurdish Situation

The Iranian Ambassador in Iraq has confirmed to US officials press reports of fighting in northwestern Iran between progovernment forces and Kurdish irregulars.

Leftists among both the Kurds and Azarbaijanis are reportedly instigating the unrest.

Tehran radio reported yesterday that there were Kurdish demonstrations in Sanandaj, capital of Kordestan; Tabriz, capital of neighboring Azarbaijan-e Sharqi Province, was said to be relatively calm.

The Khomeini regime has sent several delegations to Kordestan to investigate but has yet to develop a strategy for dealing with the unrest. Because the military has been weakened, there appears little prospect that Tehran can reassert its power in the provinces soon.

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OVERNIGHT REPORTS

(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

France-China-Vietnam

The US Embassy in Paris reported yesterday that the French statement on the Sino-Vietnamese conflict issued last Friday signals a subtle but real change in Paris' perception of the Asian conflict--involving a tilt against China. The statement made specific reference to "events on the Sino-Vietnam border" without a similar reference to the Vietnamese-Kampuchean situation. Sources at the French Foreign Ministry have indicated to the Embassy that the statement was made to put the Chinese on notice and that, since its issuance, the French have become increasingly concerned that the continued Chinese military campaign could provoke a Soviet response with dangerous consequences. The Embassy comments that while these concerns are undoubtedly genuine, an "important motivation" for the tilt away from China may be the desire to improve Franco-Soviet relations with President Giscard scheduled to visit Moscow late next month.

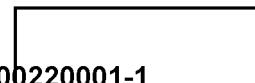
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Belgium-Morocco-Zaire

The US Embassy in Brussels reports that Foreign Minister Simonet flew to Rabat yesterday and is to confer with King Hassan today. The Embassy has learned from Simonet's principal aide that Simonet's primary aim is to be responsive to the reported Moroccan view that it has been accorded "unfair and humiliating" treatment by other nations concerned with Zaire's security. Simonet also will be reviewing the security situation in Zaire, including Rwanda's plans to place Belgian mercenaries on trial, and Rabat's intentions regarding how long Moroccan troops will remain a part of the Inter-African Force in Shaba Province. The aide has promised to give the Embassy a read-out on the Simonet-Hassan talks after he returns to Brussels this evening.

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Persian Gulf

The US Embassy in Abu Dhabi reports that Ayatollah Khomeini has apparently encouraged Palestine Liberation Organization leader Arafat and others to believe that Iran may return to the United Arab Emirates the three Persian Gulf islands seized by the Shah in 1971. The Embassy notes that cash-strapped Sharjah could benefit especially should Iran abandon its portion of the revenues from oil from one of the islands. The ruler of Sharjah is already outspokenly sympathetic to the Palestinian cause, opening the "disturbing" prospect that the PLO might obtain some sort of presence on the islands. The head of the UAE's armed forces has told the US he is concerned over the effects of an Iranian cession on the unity of the emirates. [REDACTED]

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Kuwait

Kuwait's news agency today reports the government has boosted its crude oil price \$1.20 to \$13.03 a barrel.

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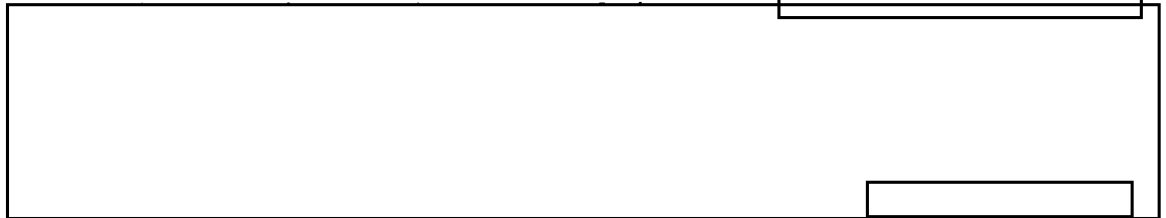
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West Germany - Middle East

The US Embassy in Bonn reported yesterday that working-level officials in the Foreign Office, commenting on press reports of Defense Secretary Brown's recent visit to the Middle East, have expressed concern that the US may be placing an undue, potentially destabilizing emphasis on military arms deliveries to Saudi Arabia and on the presence of US military advisers there. The Embassy contacts said their views are not necessarily shared at senior levels of the Foreign Office. They also acknowledged that Saudi Arabia is the focus of West German attention in the Persian Gulf region.

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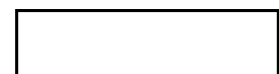
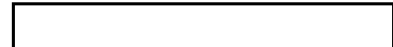


Iran

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According to late press reports, the head of Iran's oil industry told a news conference in Ahwaz today that oil exports are to resume next week through spot sales at a suggested price of \$18 to \$20 per barrel. He asserted that no discounts would be given the Euro-US oil consortium.

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